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MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1909.

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subscription rate is the same out
of town as in the city.

Prohibition in Alabama.

Alabama proposes to try out the experiment
of prohibition exhaustively. The
present legislature has fashioned about
the most comprehensive, and certainly
the most strenuous, law on the subject
ever put on the statute books of any
State in the Union, and it will be more
than mildly interesting to watch and see
what comes of it.

Under the provisions of this fearful
and wonderful enactment no liquors
may legally be sold or given away, no
advertisement of liquors may be printed
in any newspaper or periodical or appear
on any billboard, no railroad may leave a
car containing liquor standing on a side-
track, no place of sale or for the hand-
ling of any kind of merchandise may be
called a "saloon." Officers of the law
are empowered to raid any place where-
soever on suspicion, and the possession
of an internal revenue license is declared
to be prima facie evidence of intent to
violate the law, whether any liquors are
actually found or not. No corporation
may bring, or cause to be brought, into
the State any liquor, on pain of forfeit-
ing its charter. Clubs wherein liquors
are kept for individual use are specifically
declared to be illegal, and membership in
the same is presumptive evidence of in-
tent to commit a misdemeanor.

We have no means of knowing
whether the State of Alabama will uphold
such a law as this, of course, but we
think, on the whole, it is just as well
that the legislature find out. Gov. Comer
must think Alabama wants this sort of
regulation, and surely the legislature may
be considered to have done the immedi-
ately popular thing in enacting it. If
Alabama really desires iron-clad prohibi-
tion, this law surely would seem to give
it to the people. If the law cannot be
enforced in the new circumstances set
up, we imagine advocates of prohibition
may as well throw up their hands and
admit defeat. The legislature has made
it a high crime to have anything what-
soever to do with liquor, and it would,
doubtless, make it a felony even to
think of it if it were sure such a pro-
vision might be carried into effect.

Well, there is an old saying that the
best way to get rid of a bad law is to
make it as onerous as possible; and if
Alabama does not, in its heart of
hearts, want prohibition, the prohibi-
tionists, by such legislation as this, seem
likely enough to defeat their own pur-
poses sooner or later. If the State, on
the other hand, is dead in earnest about
prohibition, it owes it to itself to enact
the most rigid laws that can be devised
within the constitution to see that prop-
erty is had not only in form, but in sub-
stance as well.

We have an idea, however, that Ala-
bama is going to know a good deal more
about what it thinks of prohibition after
it has experienced a few more years of
it than it knows now.

Automobile Races.

Modern civilization would find no en-
tertainment, but only horror, in those
contests of the arena between gladiators
or between prisoners of war and wild
beasts that thrilled the jaded patricians
and the bloodthirsty plebeians of the
Roman empire. Even the comparatively
bloodless bullfight, which still appeals to
Latin, has no charm for the more aes-
thetic Anglo-Saxon taste. It is but nat-
ural, then, that the tragic incidents of
the automobile races at Indianapolis
should excite a feeling of revulsion, not
alone among the public, but among the
manufacturers of automobiles. It is one
of those who makes the emphatic de-
claration: "I am through with the game.
It is not worth half the cost."

It is to be hoped that other manufac-
turers will share this view. If they do
not, then it must remain for public
opinion to frown effectually upon such
contests. There are other reasons why
they should cease. As advertisements
only, they are highly expensive, and the
influence of their results upon sales is
not apparent. The intelligent public ap-
preciates that these contests have been
quite as much between the drivers as
they have been tests of the comparative
merits of the machines. It is the nerve
and skill of the man at the wheel that
count the most. What average riders
want is the car of practical trustworthi-
ness, that can be guided safely through
city streets or that can make tours across
country, up hill and down dale, con-

tributing to the business, the happiness,
and the health of their owners. Under
such reasonable conditions, and with the
persistent training of chauffeurs, acci-
dents will decrease and the sale and
use of automobiles will increase, espe-
cially as their development will tend, as
in the case of the sewing machine and
other inventions, toward cheaper produc-
tion. The automobile is properly an
agent of convenience, health, and hap-
piness; not of strain, distress, and tragedy.

The American Girl.

American social ways and manners are
the subject of much and growing for-
eign comment. It is wholesome for the
thoughtful patriot to have a glimpse of
the foreign view. Sensible Americans
are willing to be judged, since they may
thereby better judge themselves. In fact,
self-criticism not seldom adds savor to
the salt of reflective American wit. But
this land has been subjected to the re-
view of a journalist from far Bengal,
and to see ourselves through the eyes
of a Hindu may be interesting, if not
profitable. It is the American girl who
has attracted the arrows of this pagan
critic. His chief indictment is the girl
in the United States who is courted does
her utmost to make herself agreeable to
the suitor. She hides flaws of temper-
ament. She conceals physical ail-
ments. She disguises bad temper. She
paints and powders. Worst of all, these
arts are so transparent that they must
tickle the vanity of the aspirant for her
favor. All of these deceptions, false al-
lurements, and little hypocrisies are di-
rected, in the view of this East Indian,
toward securing a husband and a home.

This is not a pleasing picture. The im-
pulse of the American girl will be to de-
clare that it is not a portrait. She must
know better than can any one else. It is
a natural inquiry, if these criticisms be
true, how this foreign and unfamiliar
observer penetrated all the barriers of
disguise. Are, then, our feminine veils
so thin? It may be suggested that we
have no zenanas. The ways of the
American wife and daughter are the
ways of open candor. Their hospitality,
to those who win entrance through its
portals, is as frank as cordial. But even
so, the divine mystery of womanhood
persists in lending its elusive charm. It
defies the analysis of cold criticism,
whether native or foreign. In this, as in
other instances of alien observation, the
American girl can prove her own and
sufficient champion.

The Rural Postman.

It is elementary and familiar to say
that the postal service is not expected to
return a financial profit to the govern-
ment. Its administration is expected to
be both economical and efficient. Per-
haps in its varied operations there is no
activity of more widespread benefit and
of greater popularity than the rural free
delivery. The thirtieth anniversary of
its establishment merits the recognition
that it is to receive in October. The ser-
vice has grown from its initial five routes
to nearly 4,000, and now reaches nearly
a quarter of our entire population. Since
its beginning it has cost an average of
nearly \$12,000,000 a year. Now its annual
deficit amounts to \$40,000,000, with an upward
tendency; but it would be difficult to cite
another executive outlay that results in
more general popular satisfaction. If it
were possible to find a definite answer,
whether free rural delivery adds to the
contentment of the isolated life. There
can be no doubt as to its contribution of
enlightenment. If that result involve dis-
content with the more or less placid mo-
notony of rural life, the discontent may
be of the wholesome kind that stirs to
striving for wider mental outlook. But
logically, this daily communication with
the outer world of other activities ought
to make the life of the farm more at-
tractive. During the long, hard days of
summer toil, the recurrent presence of
newspaper and magazine in the farm-
house offers a wholesome, even if brief,
mental diversion from thoughts of tired
muscles and anticipation of the early
morning summons. In the more relaxed
days of winter, the daily mail brings
many an hour of uplifting recreation to
isolated householders. Supplemented by
the rural telephone, it keeps the back-
waters constantly eddying in sympathy
with swifter currents. Its quiet, constant
operation is worth a thousand official
commissions appointed to investigate the
mental condition of the man who bends
his back at the source of wealth. It
makes not only better, but happier citi-
zens and patriots. Its benefits are not
merely theoretical, but visible and tangi-
ble. The rural letter carrier is the ally
of the district school teacher.

The Insane and Unsafe Automobile.

appears determined to parallel, if not upset,
the records of the insane and unsafe
Fourth-of-Julyist.

"Alabama has gone crazy," says the
Nashville American. Let us hope Ala-
bama does not lose the return trip cou-
pon.

The Charlotte Observer, one of the
country's most persistent trouble makers,
recently printed three tests for insan-
ity that one might try on oneself. Wise
people will not bother themselves with
such foolishness.

"How much should women eat?" in-
quires the Charleston News and Courier.
If the News and Courier is referring to
ice cream or fudge, we decline to ex-
press an opinion.

A little flight of seventy-two miles gets
only a few lines in the aeroplane news
of the day. We are going some aerially.

There could hardly be more different
things the matter with Mr. Harriman
if he had a dozen doctors instead of
merely two or three.

The Alabama editor wrote of his de-
ceased friend, "He has fought his last
battle." Prof. Linotype, who is some-
thing of an anti-prohibitionist at times,
put it "bottle."

"Marriage is the appointed end of ev-
ery woman," says Ella Wheeler Wilcox.
Perhaps this is why so many sweet girl
graduates hope to see their finish in
June.

"Cannon is not responsible for what is
known as Cannonism," says the Lynch-
burg Advance. Certainly not. Repub-
licanism is responsible for what is known

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

A HEADLINER.
Incomparable, distinct, alone!
A lion heart!
By such descriptive terms is known
N. Bonaparte.

And wouldn't they look well arrayed
Upon a bill?
Ah, what a hit he would have made
In vaudeville.

At the Matinee.
"I believe we had these same seats
when we were at the theater last win-
ter."
"No, we had these seats. Here is my
chewing gum."

More Trouble.
"What will happen when women vote?"
"I suppose, among other things, you
won't be able to get a Democratic cou-
ter to work with a Republican housemaid."

A Modest Ambition.
"We've never had a President stop at
Punkville."
"Too small, eh?"
"I judge so. I wonder if we could get
one of the White House attendants to
send us a picture post card."

Coin to Invest.
The times are prosperous indeed.
When poetry advances
And poets sit them down to read
The business chances.

Holds Its Own.
"Big demand, I suppose, for a bedtime
music."
"There is."
"Ever sell any classical music these
days?"
"Oh, yes. Everybody wants a little to
stand on the platform."

A Scheme.
"I see you gave the third act of the
musical comedy first."
"Yes," explained the stage manager.
"We do it that way on alternate nights.
The third act is already set, you see,
from the evening before, and nobody
knows the diff."

Needs Space.
"What would be a suitable present to
send a royal baby?"
"Well, I hardly know. You couldn't get
its name on anything smaller than a soup
ladle."

ANOTHER MILEPOST PASSED.

The Last Step in the Conquest of the
Savage Indian.

The opening of three Indian reserva-
tions in the West and the parceling of
their share of the public lands to the
Indians marks almost the last milepost
in the conquest of the savage. The In-
dian becomes a homesteader. He takes
his place side by side with the white
farmer and rancher. He has long since
ceased to roam in the old nomadic way.
He confines himself to periodical visits
to the towns and cities of the whites,
where he looks with curious eyes upon
the puzzling novelties of civilization. He
discards the blanket for trousers and gal-
luses. His daughter, gowned in innocent
white, marches under evening shadows to
the far-reaching toll of the vesper bell,
a mingling figure in the silent march of
civilization. His son is a cornetist in the
reservation brass band. Thus the former
warrior lives and dies, the last vestige of
a dissolving race. Here and there
throughout the West still remain re-
mnants of tribal life, pitiful figures that
glare upon a stage once swelling
with the pomp of paint and feathers
and lighted with the holocaust of
blood. It is not a far fall from Fenimore
Cooper's Chingachgook to Charley, the
chief of the Flatheads. One was the
warrior of a dying race on Atlantic shores,
the other is the aged patriarch of the last
of the red man's power on the Pacific.
The march of the West still remains
with which Cooper's glowing pen en-
dowed the character of his race. He has
always insisted that his name was forged
to the treaty negotiated by James A.
Garfield, then chairman of an Indian
commission, whereby the Flatheads were
dispossessed of their camping grounds in
the Bitter Root Valley. Political injustice
it was that fomented the war, culminat-
ing in the battle of the Big Hole, his-
torically known as the march of Chief
Joseph. The policy of the government
which turned these words over to the
care of political carpet-baggers reacted
upon innocent heads and left a ghastly
trail.

ABOUT PUBLIC MEN.

Mr. Cannon's Thunder.
From the Boston Transcript.
Mr. Cannon's criticism of his critics hardly
read as he thinks the word.

Dr. Wiley Commands Confidence.
From the Boston Herald.
The people believe in Wiley, and the campaign
that has been waged against him only serves
to increase their confidence.

Mr. Aldrich and Postal Savings.
From the Indianapolis News.
There is a suspicion that Senator Aldrich has
no objection to postal savings banks as long
as there is no such thing.

Mr. Fowler's Opinion.
From the Louisville Courier-Journal.
Mr. Fowler, of New Jersey, says Mr. Cannon,
of Illinois, is unfit to dictate the financial and
currency legislation of a civilized country.

Dr. Elliot on Labor Disputes.
From the Chicago Record-Herald.
Dr. Elliot has more than once referred with ad-
miration and hope to the Canadian plan of securing
peaceful and economical settlement of labor dis-
putes.

Gov. Hughes and Primaries.
From the Brooklyn Standard Union.
What Gov. Hughes and the other advocates of
direct nominations ask their audiences to believe is
that it would be easier to get the people to go to
the trouble and expense of an election twice than
once.

Mr. Taylor for Mr. Culberson.
From the Springfield Republican.
Senator Robert Taylor, of Tennessee, is a great
humorist, but he does not wish to be understood as
joking in naming Senator Culberson, of Texas, for
the next Democratic Presidential nomination on a
platform of tariff for revenue only.

Ex-Secretary Shaw's Optimism.
From an address in Philadelphia.
This is a great country and we are a great people.
This is a good country and we are a good people.
Our standards were never as high, our ideals were
never as lofty, our service was never as good, and
our prospects were never more bright.

Mr. Jerome's Courage.
From the Chicago Evening Post.
Whether or not to believe that Mr. Jerome has
met the highest opportunities which his office offers,
we must at least be impressed by the courageous
service which the political side of his career has
rendered the democratic idea in our cities.

Judge Gary and Free Trade.
From the New York Evening Post.
The confession of Judge Gary, at the dinner in
his honor given by the Sheffield Chamber of Com-
merce, that he had no objection to free trade, if
only it were universally adopted, is now characteris-
tic of our greatest iron masters. Mr. Carnegie, it
will be remembered, has delivered himself to the
same effect.

THEN AND NOW.

Then—her length was twenty inches.
Now—her waist is just that fifth.
Then—she was a fair young girl.
Now—she simply waits the earth.

Then—she grasped a small tin rattle.
Now—she wears a diamond ring.
Then—her dress a simple cotton.
Now—she holds a dazzling gown.

Then—one ringlee crowned her forehead.
Now—she's filled with puns and riddles.
Then—she was a little girl.
Now—she's fifty-dollar hat.

Then—her words were sweet and flowing.
Now—she doesn't lie, she speaks.
Then—her little foot was so delicate.
Now—she wears Dullbury heels.

Then—her drink was white and hot-warm.
Now—she's amber and cold.
Then—she must be fresh and sweetened.
Now—she's "dry" and very old.

Then—she's moving swing slowly.
Now—she's pendulum pretty fast.
Then—she's little with a future.
Now—she's fifty-dollar hat.

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PEOPLE AND THINGS

News of Universities.
The University of California censors
the news that goes out to the press. The
University of Chicago has established a
bureau of publicity to serve as the im-
partial and trustworthy source of infor-
mation to the public. It is explained, how-
ever, that no restriction of professional
freedom of talk or communication is in-
tended. The Chicago idea therefore is
distinctly different from that of Cal-
ifornia. It is a fiction that newspaper
publicity is hostile to university interest.
Yellow journalism may be objectionable.
But collegiate bureaus of publicity could
not only give out freely news of interest
and importance to the public, but should
take pains to contradict and correct any
and all inaccurate, unjust, harmful items
regarding university affairs that appear
in the press. The remedy for the ills of
publicity is greater publicity; the best
weapon against sensationalism and idiosync-
rasy is the simple truth safely expressed.

Prohibition in the West.
Prohibition turns its eyes from the
South to the West. Prohibition maps
have shown Montana, Idaho, Wyoming,
Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico
solidly "black," which is the color used
to indicate "wet" territory. Colorado was
in the same class in 1907, when a local
option law was passed. Within the last
year and a half two of these States have
seen strong county local option laws put
through their legislatures. In Utah, how-
ever, the governor vetoed the bill just
at the end of the session, leaving Idaho
the only one to put such a law in its
code. Now two Idaho counties have
voted on the question, and both have
gone "dry." Idaho County was one of
them. The other, Canyon County, showed
a "dry" majority of 1,550, which is very
heavy, considering that the total vote
of the county in last fall's Presidential
election was less than 7,500. Canyon
County is a rapidly growing region just
west of Boise City, where Idaho County
is the largest in area. In Idaho County,
which has a total of only twenty-three
counties, action in two of them means action
in almost 10 per cent of the State.

Emigrants from the United States.
It is now estimated that emigrants from
the United States into Western Canada
may number 80,000 this year. Canadian
officials are incessantly advertising the
virgin farm lands of their prairie prov-
inces in our newspapers. They want
them to look for a movement in the im-
mediate future that will overshadow that
in the past. There are 200 farms in Minne-
apolis dealing in Canadian lands, and last
year the same city had 50. The big
drop now betrays a new method. Mani-
toba will still further advertise the country
among our Western farmers, who cannot
visit a State fair or a county cattle show
without facing the alluring Canadian pos-
sibilities and hearing the paid lecturer grow
eloquent over the wonders of the far
North, where "Old Glory" is never seen.
The superintendent of Canadian immigration
reports that he finds no opposition
to his efforts in the United States. The Wash-
ington government shows no unfriendly
feeling, and the only competition encoun-
tered is that from the Southern States.

Investigators Afield.
A committee of the New York legisla-
ture, now junketing through the West in
search of information about direct pri-
maries, excites some humorous comment.
A Topeka journal advises the investiga-
tors to get their information from the
libraries at home. A Chicago newspaper
praises the investigators for going to
the source of the trouble. "They must
have been impressed by the fact that
each candidate for a hit, as he stepped
up to the plate, was given an absolutely
fair chance for it by the nine hostile
electors spread out around him. Each
man stood squarely on his own merits,
without any hidden machinery of corrup-
tion to aid or to thwart him. This is one
characteristic of the direct primary which
appeals most strongly to the people, and
we doubt not that it is an embodiment
of Democracy that strikes an equal spark
in the breasts of Senator 'Pat' McCarran
and his fellow-investigators."

Vanity of Genius.
The vanity of genius has its eccentrici-
ties. Rostand, the French poet and dra-
matist, recently sold the house in which
he had lived in Paris. Before parting
with the property he sealed up the door
and placed a bronze tablet "to mark the
threshold once pressed by the foot of
genius." This thing of marking dwell-
ings of great men is a thing of the
process not without its perils. The story
is told of a German composer, that a
friend once said to him: "Well, they ap-
preciate you at least in your native city."
In the house where you were born they
have placed an inscription. "In this
house he lived." "It says, 'To let'."

The Auto Mechanician.
In reading about automobile races, most
persons think only of the skill and peril
of the driver. But the mechanic plays
his part. A local account of the
recent races in Indianapolis says: "One
mechanician in the recent speedway race
meeting worked in eleven races, includ-
ing all three of the long-distance races.
Twice he finished first, and once he was
second. But to do this the overworked
machine had to be almost held together
with human muscle. There were three
times to change, and oil, gasoline, and water
supplies had to be secured. In one race the
bolts on the gasoline tank had loosened
to such an extent that it was necessary
for the mechanic to lean over and
hold the tank on with his left hand for
sixty miles while the ground shot by at
the rate of 100 feet to the second. He
lived through it all, to receive as his re-
ward the sum of \$30."

Branch of Etiquette.
From the Boston Transcript.
The two women stopped in front of a
dentist's showcase on Tremont street.
"There mamma," said the younger woman,
an pointing, "I want a set just like
that."
"Hush, my child," commanded her
mother, "don't you know that it's vulgar
to pick your teeth on the street?"

Where, Oh, Where?
From the Springfield (Ma.) Republican.
With nine out of ten women in the
world buying their hair, in heaven's
name, where does all the hair come from?

From the Houston Post.
With nine out of ten men in the world
losing their hair, where in heaven's
name, does all the hair go to?

We Need 'Em, Too.
From the New York Herald.
A clergyman out in Omaha was hit by
three automobiles within five minutes and
suffered only slight bruises and the loss
of his temper. Wonder if those Omaha
chauffeurs can't be induced to come
East?

Tariff on Rope.
From the St. Louis Star.
A million dollars from the Philippines
have been admitted free, the tariff on
rope notwithstanding.

Something on Pittsburgh.
From the Indianapolis Star.
The skies around Indianapolis are not
surpassed for aviation anywhere on the
globe.

KING EDWARD'S JOB.

A Mechanic's Life Seems Child's Play
By Comparison.
From the Boston Traveler.
Most everybody envies a king his job;
the power, the majesty, the honor and
glamour appeals to most people, but it is
doubtful if there is a workman in the
community who works so hard and so
continuously as a king.

King Edward of England is now almost
at the allotted age of the prophet; he is
an old man, not well, and he is
Compared with this week's record, the
eight hours a day of the hardest working
mechanic is child's play.

Other engagements during the week
were: Laying the foundation stone of the
New Kings College Hospital at Dulwich;
opening of the Royal Infirmary at Man-
chester; a dedication service at the Queen
Alexandra Hospital at Millbank, and an
inspection of the military hospitals at
Aldershot; attended the Royal Agricul-
tural Society show at Gloucester; a re-
view of the West Lancashire Territorial
at Kinsley and the East Manchester Ter-
ritorial at Worsley; received an address
at Liverpool; inspected the Honorable Ar-
tillery Company; received the boys of the
Greenwich Royal Hospital School at
Buckingham Palace; reviewed the Lon-
don fire brigade at Hyde Park; attended
the military tournament, the horse show
at Olympia; improved College of Science
and Technology in London. At each place
he listened to the formal speeches of the
authorities and made a speech in reply.

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